

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A pressing unit is provided for pressing a joint portion of a housing of a stacked-type connector to have a generally U-shaped configuration. In a predetermined housing-stacking order, a stacking unit stacks the housings whose joint portions have been pressed by the pressing unit. Also provided is an apparatus for pressing a joint portion of a stacked-type connector whose housings are stacked one upon another to bend the joint portion into a generally U-shape. A frame member (housing holder) of the apparatus holds the housings, with the joint portion placed in a predetermined pressing position. A first pressing portion sandwiches the linear joint portion placed in the pressing position under pressure and bends a front side of the joint portion. After the first pressing portion bends the joint portion, a second pressing portion bends a portion of the joint portion rearwardly from the bent portion such that the joint portion has a generally U-shaped configuration. An apparatus and a method for stacking connector housings is also provided. The apparatus includes a housing-holding portion that holds housings of a stacked-type connector having a U-shaped joint portion of a terminal in a stacking order. A correction mechanism corrects the configuration of the joint portion projecting from the housing held by the housing-holding portion. In this condition, a fit-in mechanism fits a subsequent-stack housing in the housing held by the housing-holding portion. After the correction mechanism retracts, both housings are fitted to each other normally. By repeating this operation, the housings are stacked one upon another to complete formation of the stacked-type connector.